



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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February 20, 2018

Brandon Frey
Louisiana Public Service Commission
Interim Executive Secretary
Post Office Box 391154
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-9154

Re: Louisiana Board of Ethics Docket No. 2018-027

Dear Mr. Frey:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its February 16, 2018 Board meeting, considered your request for approval for a disqualification plan concerning the employment of Melissa Watson once she becomes your immediate family member on March 10, 2018. Melissa Watson is marrying your brother on March 10, 2018. Ms. Watson has been employed by the Louisiana Public Service Commission (Commission) since July 2003. You became the Interim Executive Secretary of the Commission on January 3, 2018, while also serving as the Executive Counsel of the Commission. In your capacity in those two roles, you supervise Ms. Watson who serves as the Deputy General Counsel for the Commission. The proposed disqualification plan is that Johnny Snellgrove, Deputy Undersecretary of the Commission, will become the immediate supervisor of Ms. Watson on March 10, 2018, and will make all personnel decisions subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Commission, Eric Skrmetta.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Board approves the disqualification plan in which Johnny Snellgrove will serve as the immediate supervisor of Ms. Watson and will make all personnel decisions subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Commission beginning March 10, 2018. La. R.S. 42:1112C allows a disqualification plan to be developed in accordance with Chapter 14 of the Rules for the Board of Ethics regarding the removal of a public servant from participation in transaction that would otherwise present a violation of Section 1112 of the Code. This disqualification plan satisfies both conformance with the Rules for the Board and the requirement that it be approved by the Board.

The approval of this disqualification plan is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Ethics. The Board issues no opinion as to past conduct or laws other than Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at (225) 219-5600 or (800) 842-6630.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Brett Robinson
For the Board